



Science Policy

Approved by: Full Governing Body

Date: September 2026

Review: September 2027

Signed: Chair: Mr. C, Harris

Introduction

Pupils show a fascination and curiosity in their surroundings, taking a delight in finding ways to investigate their environment. At Reddal Primary School, we believe that by encouraging this natural inquisitiveness we will help our pupils make sense of the world around them. As teachers, we seek to develop in the pupils an awareness of how science permeates almost every aspect of our lives.

Aims

We aim to:

Develop in each pupil's knowledge and understanding of, and an ability to use, the scientific process which will encourage them to acquire scientific skills and relate these to everyday experiences; learn about the ways of thinking, finding out about and communicating ideas; and explore values and attitudes through science.

Teaching and Learning

At Reddal Hill, science is delivered using Oak National Academy resources, which provide engaging and well-structured lessons. Pupils are encouraged to develop their scientific enquiry skills through observation, investigation, questioning, and the use of a variety of scientific resources. Our principal aim is to develop pupil's knowledge, skills and understanding, through whole class teaching and group work. We also engage the pupils in enquiry-based research activities; we encourage the children to ask, as well as answer, scientific questions and give them the opportunity to use IT in science lessons to enhance their learning. Wherever possible, the pupils are involved in 'real' scientific activities, for example, carrying out practical experiments and analysing the results or using the grounds of our school or the local area or trips to study the environment and the animals living within it. Science is knowledge-rich and carefully sequenced, enabling pupils to build on prior learning and develop a deeper understanding of scientific concepts over time.

National Curriculum Coverage

Science is a core subject in the National Curriculum (2014).

We teach the skills of working scientifically through the national curriculum programmes of study. Children in the Early Years Foundation Stage, (EYFS) are taught the scientific elements within the document, following the Statutory framework for the EYFS (2021), which is detailed in the 'Understanding the World' area of learning. Our science curriculum overview clearly shows which units of the National Curriculum are being taught in each year group and how they are progressive across the whole school.

Planning

The National Curriculum provides the overarching framework for science. At Reddal Hill, Oak National Academy is used to support the delivery of the science curriculum, ensuring comprehensive coverage of knowledge and skills across all year groups. Science lessons are carefully sequenced to build upon prior learning and promote progression in both scientific knowledge and enquiry skills. Teachers use Oak National Academy resources alongside the school's science progression documents and curriculum overview to inform medium-term and weekly planning, ensuring lessons meet the needs of all pupils while maintaining curriculum coverage and progression.

Differentiation

We aim to ensure that all pupils achieve their full potential through high-quality adaptive teaching that responds to their individual needs, strengths, and starting points. Lessons are carefully planned to provide appropriate support, scaffolding, and challenge, enabling all pupils

to access the curriculum and make strong progress. We recognise that learning should build progressively over time, and our planning is designed to develop increasingly sophisticated scientific knowledge, skills, and understanding as pupils move through the school.

Equal Opportunities

All pupils will be given equal access to science irrespective of race, gender, level of ability or nationality. Mutual respect and tolerance for all will be promoted through the study of science.

Assessment

The assessment of science is an integral part of teaching at Reddal Hill. It allows teachers to identify what our pupils already know / what has been learnt (prior knowledge), and to monitor pupils' progress. Oak National Academy quizzes are used at the start, during, and at the end of each unit to assess pupils' understanding of key concepts. These assessments support teachers in identifying prior knowledge, monitoring progress, addressing misconceptions, and making informed decisions about future teaching and learning. All class teachers assess pupils' understanding of science on an ongoing basis through consistent use of Assessment for Learning (AFL) strategies within lessons. This includes questioning, discussion, observations, retrieval activities, low-stakes quizzes, and the evaluation of pupils' work. Assessment focuses on both the skills of working scientifically and the knowledge taught within each unit. Information gathered through these assessments is used to inform future teaching, address misconceptions, and support pupils in making continued progress.

Written work is marked, making it clear where the work is correct and where appropriate, incorrect use of scientific vocabulary is amended appropriately. Pupils are also encouraged to peer and self-assess their understanding regularly within science lessons. Retrieval tasks are used on a frequent basis to enable pupils to recall prior learning.

Resources

The science resources and equipment are kept in a central area where they are accessible for all year groups. Resource audits are completed termly to ensure that there are sufficient amounts of resources required. Resources are updated, with consultation from teachers to ensure pupils have access to high-quality resources to support the teaching and learning of science across the school.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The General Data Protection Regulation provides a framework to ensure that personal information is handled accordingly. Personal information in school is managed in accordance with the requirements of GDPR. For further details of how we manage personal data, please see our privacy notice, which can be found on our school website <https://www.reddalhillprimary.com/our-school-policies/>